

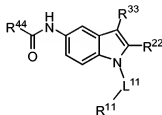
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1-24 (Cancelled)

25. (Currently amended) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, or diluent together with a compound of the formula,



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

L¹¹ is carbonyl, or a covalent bond when R¹¹ is H;

R¹¹ is H except when L¹¹ is carbonyl, ~~then R¹¹ is phenyl substituted with 1-3 R⁵⁰, or C₄₋₆-heteroaryl containing 1-3 heteroatoms selected from the group N, S, and O and substituted with 1-3 R⁵⁰;~~

R²² is H, or C₁₋₆ alkyl;

R³³ is H or C₁₋₃ alkyl;

R⁴⁴ is H, optionally substituted C₁₋₆ alkyl, optionally substituted C₃₋₇ cycloalkyl, optionally substituted C₃₋₇ heterocycloalkyl containing at least one N, O or S atom, C₃₋₇ cycloalkanone, optionally substituted C₃₋₇ monocyclic or C₇₋₁₃ bicyclic aryl, optionally substituted C₃₋₆ monocyclic or C₅₋₁₃ bicyclic heteroaryl containing at least one N, O, or S atom, or optionally substituted C₃₋₆ monocyclic or C₅₋₁₃ bicyclic heterocycle containing at least one N, O, or S atom, wherein said optional substitutions are one to four R⁶ groups; each R⁵⁰ is independently H, halo, Cl, F, CF₃, C₁-C₃ per fluoro, C₁-C₃ perhalo, -OC₁₋₃ perhalo, NO₂, CH₃, R⁷, -OCH₃, -OR⁷, -SR⁷, -CN, -NHR⁷, -N(R⁷)₂, -CON(H)R²³CON(R⁷)₂, -R²³N(H)R⁷, -R²³N(R⁷)₂;

each R⁶ is independently H, halo, Cl, F, -CF₃, -NO₂, -R⁵⁰, -SR⁵⁰, -OR⁵⁰, -CN, N(R⁵⁰)₂, -C(O)R⁵⁰, -R²³C(O)R⁵⁰, -CON(R⁵⁰)₂, C₄-C₆ cycloalkyl, C₃₋₇ cycloalkanone, C₄₋₆ cycloalkylamine,

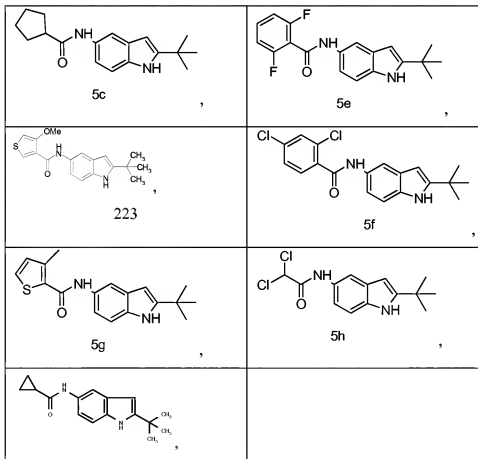
C₃₋₆ monocyclic or C₅₋₁₃ bicyclic heteroaryl containing at least one N, O, or S atoms or a C₆-C₁₂ monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle containing at least one N, O, or [[5]]S atom;
R⁷ is H, halo or C₁₋₆ alkyl;
R²³ is a bond or is C₁-C₆ alkyl;
with the proviso that R²² is not CH₃ when R¹¹ is H.

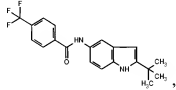
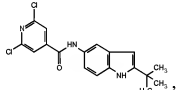
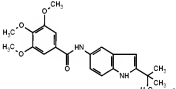
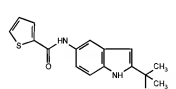
26. (Cancelled)

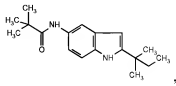
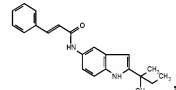
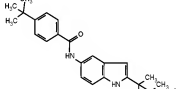
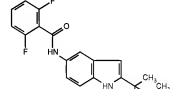
27. (Cancelled)

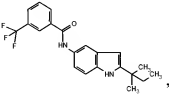
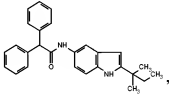
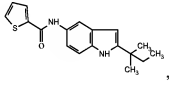
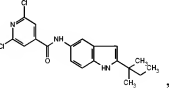
28. (Currently amended) [[A]] The composition according to claim 25 wherein R²² is t-butyl or neo-pentyl.

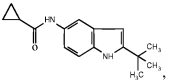
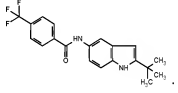
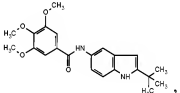
29. (Currently amended) [[A]] The composition according to claim 28 wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:



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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

30. (Currently amended) ~~A pharmaceutical~~ The composition according to claim 25 wherein for said compound L¹¹ is carbonyl.
31. (Currently amended) ~~A pharmaceutical~~ The composition according to claim 30 wherein for said compound R¹¹ is phenyl or pyridyl.
32. (Currently amended) ~~A pharmaceutical~~ The composition according to claim 31 wherein for said compound R²² is CH₃.
33. (Currently amended) ~~A pharmaceutical~~ The composition according to claim 32 wherein for said compound R³³ is H or CH₃.
34. (Currently amended) ~~A pharmaceutical~~ The composition according to claim 31 wherein for said compound R³³ is H or CH₃.
35. - 37. (Cancelled)
38. (Previously Presented) A method of treating a mammal infected with HCV, said method comprising administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a composition according to claim 25.
39. (Previously presented) A method of treating a mammal infected with HCV, said method comprising administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a composition according to claim 30.
40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein said mammal is a human.
41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein said mammal is a human.
42. (New) The composition according to claim 25 wherein R⁴⁴ is optionally substituted C₃₋₇ cycloalkyl, optionally substituted C₃₋₇ heterocycloalkyl containing at least one N, O or S atom, optionally substituted C₅₋₇ monocyclic aryl, or optionally substituted C₃₋₆ monocyclic heteroaryl containing at least one N, O, or S.
43. (New) The composition according to claim 25 wherein R⁴⁴ is optionally substituted C₃₋₇ cycloalkyl, optionally substituted C₅₋₇ monocyclic aryl, or optionally substituted C₃₋₆ monocyclic heteroaryl containing at least one N, O, or S.

44. (New) The composition according to claim 43 wherein R²² is t-butyl.
45. (New) The composition according to claim 44 wherein R³³ is H.
46. (New) The composition according to claim 45 wherein said compound is N-(2-tert-butyl-1H-indol-5-yl)thiophene-2-carboxamide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.